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A

COMPANION

TO THE

SACRED HISTORY;

CONTAINING

SELECT HYMNS

ON THE

Hiſtorical Parts of Scripture.

IN TWO BOOKS.

I. On the Hiſtory of the Old Teſtament.
II. On the Hiſtory of the New Teſtament.

COMPILED

At the Requeſt of the

AUTHOR OF "SACRED HISTORY, IN FAMILIAR DIALOGUES, &c."

O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the people: ſing unto him, ſing Pſalms unto him; talk ye of all his wondrous works."

Pſalm CV. 1, 2.

——— teaching and admoniſhing one another in Pſalms and Hymns, and ſpiritual Songs, ſinging with grace in your hearts to the Lord." *Col.* iii. 16.

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PREFACE.

THE following Work was undertaken at the urgent requeſt of the Author of "Sacred Hiſtory, in familiar Dialogues;" being originally deſigned for the uſe of a Sunday-School, under her inſpection and patronage.

In forming the Selection, the Compiler has availed himſelf of all the helps he could procure from Hymns already publiſhed; in the inſertion of which, he has occaſionally taken the liberty to add, abbreviate, alter, or tranſpoſe, to make them more conformable to his plan. Where theſe materials failed, he has done

his beſt to ſupply the deficiency. The Hymns borrowed from others are diſtinguiſhed by having the name of the Author or Editor prefixed to them.

Conciſeneſs, perſpicuity, and practical inſtruction have been principally aimed at, both in the ſelection and in the compoſition. Being chiefly intended for the uſe of young perſons, brevity has been invariably regarded; none of the Hymns containing more than five verſes, that the mind might not be overburdened, where it ſhould be thought eligible to commit them to memory.

The firſt is called the Introductory Hymn, in order that the numbers following might correſpond with the Dialogues; the ſubject of each Hymn being ſelected from that part of the Hiſtory, which is related in the dialogue of the ſame number.

Though thus particularly adapted to the Publication referred to, it is presumed that its utility need not be confined to that object; but that it may be applied with equal propriety, to the usual purposes of instruction and devotion.

To schools and families, where the Bible is read in course, it may prove an acceptable present, by furnishing them with a number of Hymns on the historical parts of Scripture; some never published before, and others collected from the most approved authors, adapted to the capacities of youth, and suited to promote the exercise of domestic devotion. The care that has been taken to avoid peculiar measures, may also contribute to render it more generally useful; all the Hymns, except that on the Deluge, being in long, common, or short metre.

Such is the outline of the plan. The manner in which it is executed must be left to the candour of the reader, and the benefit that may result from it to the blessing of God, without whom, Paul may plant and Apollos may water in vain; but if He smile upon it, though like an arrow shot at a venture from an unknown hand, yet, guided by his unerring skill, and aided by his effectual energy, it shall not fall to the ground without accomplishing his gracious purpose, and prospering in the thing whereto he is pleased to send it. Should this be the happy effect, the utmost wish of the Compiler will be gratified, and may God have all the glory.

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HYMNS,

HYMNS,

&c. &c.

BOOK THE FIRST.

On the History of the Old Testament.

INTRODUCTORY HYMN. (WATTS.)

1 LET children hear the mighty deeds,
Which God perform'd of old;
Which in our younger years we saw,
And which our fathers told.

2 He bids us make his glories known,
His works of pow'r and grace;
And we'll convey his wonders down,
Thro' ev'ry rising race.

3 Our lips shall tell them to our sons,
And they again to theirs,
That generations yet unborn
May teach them to their heirs.

4 Thus shall they learn in God alone
Their hope securely stands,
That they may ne'er forget his works,
But practise his commands.

I.

The Creation and Fall of Man.

1 HOW great the mighty pow'r of God,
Who bade creation rise;
Form'd the wide earth for man's abode,
And spread the lofty skies!

2 How glorious all! till sin arose
Its beauty to deface;
Big with unutterable woes
To Adam's guilty race!

3 But O! what mercy God display'd,
Whilst grace, with vengeance join'd,
Reveal'd the woman's promis'd seed,
The Saviour of mankind!

4 All glory be to God alone,
Whose wisdom form'd the plan,
In which redemption is made known
To ruin'd fallen man.

II.

The Deluge.

1 LET us now in contemplation
Mark the havock sin has made:
O! what dreadful desolation
Doth the works of God invade;
Whilst in ruins
All the world at once is laid!

2 O'er the highest hills prevailing,
See th' impetuous rains descend!

All

All the hopes of mortals failing
In despair and ruin end!
On what refuge
Shall presumption now depend?

3 Yet, amidst this scene distressing,
Those that in the ark reside,
Full security possessing,
Fearless view the swelling tide:
O how favour'd
They who in that ark abide!

4 Such is Christ to true believers:
He from the o'erwhelming flood
Of approaching wrath delivers,
By his own atoning blood;
In him only
Can we find a safe abode.

III.

The Character of Abraham.

1 ABRA'M, when call'd of God
To quit his native land,
Forsook the place of his abode
At the divine command.

2 No settled rest he knew,
A pilgrim now become,
But faith presented to his view
An everlasting home.

3 When call'd to sacrifice
His well-beloved son,
Without delay his faith replies,
"Thy will, O Lord, be done."

4 Grant, gracious God, that we,
Of Abra'm's faith possess'd,
When this vain life shall end, may be
With faithful Abra'm bless'd.

IV.

Jacob's Ladder.

1 WHEN Jacob from his brother fled,
As he repos'd his weary head,
He saw in vision, with surprise,
A ladder reaching to the skies.

2 Ascending and descending here
The angels of the Lord appear;
And, from on high, a voice address'd
To Jacob's ear, pronounc'd him bless'd.

3 We, in this mystic ladder, trace
A view of Jesus and his grace:
In Him all blessings are bestow'd,
In Him we find access to God.

4 O let us then, without delay,
To Jesus come, the only way,
In which our sins can be forgiv'n,
And we at last ascend to heav'n.

V.

The Character of Joseph.

1 HOW many changes Joseph pass'd
Before he thirty years had known!
He's now a slave, in prison cast,
And now exalted next the throne!

2 Yet grace appears thro' ev'ry ſcene,
And gilds the various paths he trod:
How wiſe, how juſt, how kind to men!
How fearful of offending God!

3 In deep adverſity depreſs'd,
He's active, cheerful and reſign'd;
And when with wealth and honour bleſs'd,
Humility adorns his mind.

4 From his example may we learn
Our various duties to fulfil;
And make it our ſupreme concern
To pleaſe the Lord and do his will.

VI.

Joſeph making himſelf known to his Brethren.

1 WHAT muſt the ſons of Jacob feel,
When Joſeph did himſelf reveal,
In Egypt's ruler to behold
Their brother whom they baſely ſold!

2 But Joſeph, with a melting heart,
Forgives them all, and, ere they part,
Bids them to dwell near him prepare,
In his felicity to ſhare.

3 And can we ſuch a ſtory read,
Nor think of Him, whoſe love indeed
All love of creatures doth excel,
As heav'n the earth on which we dwell,

4 To Jeſus then we'll raiſe our ſong,
To whom forgiveneſs doth belong;
Who hath in heav'n prepar'd a place
For all the ſubjects of his grace.

VII. (Watts.)

The Plagues of Egypt.

1 WHEN Pharaoh dar'd to vex the ſaints,
And thus provok'd their God,
Moſes was ſent at their complaints,
Arm'd with his dreadful rod.

2 He call'd for darkneſs, darkneſs came,
Like an o'erwhelming flood:
He turn'd each lake and ev'ry ſtream
To lakes and ſtreams of blood.

3 Thro' fields, and towns, and palaces,
The tenfold vengeance flew;
Locuſts in ſwarms devour'd their trees,
And hail their cattle ſlew.

4 Then by an angel's midnight ſtroke,
The flow'r of Egypt dy'd;
The ſtrength of ev'ry houſe was broke,
Their glory and their pride.

5 Now let the world forbear its rage,
Nor put the church in fear:
Iſrael muſt live thro' ev'ry age,
And be th' Almighty's care.

VIII. (Watts.)

The Deliverance of the Iſraelites from Egypt, and their Entrance on the Wilderneſs.

1 THUS were the tribes from bondage brought,
And left the hated ground;
Each ſome Egyptian ſpoils had got,
And not one feeble found.

2 The

2 The Lord himſelf choſe out their way,
And mark'd their journies right,
Gave them a leading cloud by day,
A fiery guide by night.

3 They thirſt; and waters from the rock
In rich abundance flow,
And following ſtill the courſe they took,
Ran all the deſert thro'.

4 O wond'rous ſtream! O bleſſed type
Of ever-flowing grace!
So Chriſt our rock maintains our life
Thro' all this wilderneſs.

5 Near him, my ſoul, may'ſt thou abide,
Upon his grace depend,
And from his fulneſs be ſupply'd,
Till this frail life ſhall end.

IX. (Watts.)

The Law and Goſpel united; or, the Excellence of the Scripture.

1 THE Lord declares his will,
And keeps the world in awe;
Amidſt the ſmoke on Sinai's hill
Breaks out his fiery law.

2 The Lord reveals his face,
And ſmiling from above,
Sends down the goſpel of his grace,
Th' epiſtles of his love.

3 Theſe ſacred words impart
Our Maker's juſt commands;

The

The pity of his melting heart,
And vengeance of his hands.

4 We read the heav'nly word,
We take the offer'd grace,
Obey the ſtatutes of the Lord,
And truſt his promiſes.

5 In vain ſhall ſatan rage
Againſt a book divine,
Where wrath and lightning guard the page,
Where beams of mercy ſhine.

X. (Watts.)

Iſrael puniſhed and pardoned; or, God's unchangeable Love.

1 God of eternal love,
How fickle are our ways!
And yet how oft did Iſrael prove
Thy conſtancy of grace!

2 They ſaw thy wonders wrought,
And then thy praiſe they ſung;
But ſoon thy works of pow'r forgot,
And murmur'd with their tongue.

3 Now they believe his word,
While rocks with rivers flow;
Now, with their luſts provoke the Lord,
And he reduc'd them low.

4 Yet, when they mourn'd their faults,
He hearken'd to their groans,
Brought his own cov'nant to his thoughts,
And call'd them ſtill his ſons.

4 Let

5 Let Israel bless the Lord,
Who lov'd their ancient race;
And Christians join the solemn word
Amen to all the praise.

XI. (Watts.)

The Brazen Serpent; or, Looking to Jesus.

1 BEHOLD the Hebrew Prophet raise
The brazen serpent high!
The wounded feel immediate ease,
The camp forbears to die.

2 "Look upward in the dying hour,
"And live," the prophet cries;
But Christ performs a nobler cure,
When Faith lifts up her eyes.

3 High on the cross the Saviour hung,
High in the heav'ns he reigns;
Here sinners, by th' old serpent stung,
Look, and forget their pains.

4 When God's own son is lifted up,
A dying world revives;
The Jew beholds the glorious hope,
Th' expiring Gentile lives.

XII. (Watts.)

Moses dying in the Embraces of God.

1 DEATH cannot make our souls afraid,
If God be with us there;
We may walk thro' its darkest shade,
And never yield to fear.

2 I could renounce my all below,
If my Creator bid;
And run, if I were call'd to go,
And die as Moses did.

3 Might I but climb to Pisgah's top,
And view the promis'd land;
My flesh itself would long to drop,
And pray for the command.

4 Clasp'd in my heav'nly Father's arms,
I would forget my breath,
And lose my life among the charms
Of so divine a death.

XIII. (Watts.)

Jordan divided; or, Death made easy by a prospect of Heaven.

1 THERE is a land of pure delight,
Where saints immortal reign:
Infinite day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain.

2 There everlasting spring abides,
And never-with'ring flow'rs:
Death, like a narrow sea, divides
This heav'nly land from ours.

3 Sweet fields, beyond the swelling flood,
Stand dress'd in living green:
So to the Jews old Canaan stood,
While Jordan roll'd between.

4 Jesus our Lord is gone before,
We would his footsteps tread;

In:

In him confide, and fear no more
To follow where he led.

5 Prepar'd this mortal life to quit,
Whene'er he gives command;
May we to him our ſouls commit,
And gain that heav'nly land.

XIV. (Newton.)

The Gibeonites protected by Joſhua.

1 WHEN Joſhua, by God's command,
Invaded Canaan's guilty land;
Gibeon, unlike the nations round,
Submiſſion made and mercy found.

2 Their ſtubborn neighbours who enrag'd,
United war againſt them wag'd,
By Joſhua ſoon were overthrown,
For Gibeon's cauſe was now his own.

3 He, from whoſe arm they ruin fear'd,
Their leader and ally appear'd;
An emblem of the Saviour's grace,
To thoſe who humbly ſeek his face.

4 His invitations Jeſus ſends,
Treating with rebels as his friends;
And holds the promiſe forth in view,
To all who for his mercy ſue.

5 O may we hear his gracious call,
And at his feet ſubmiſſive fall;
Repenting ſouls he ſtill receives,
And pardon and protection gives.

XV.

XV. (Newton.)

Gideon's Fleece.

1 THE ſigns which God to Gideon gave,
His holy ſov'reignty made known;
That He alone has pow'r to ſave,
And claims the glory as his own.

2 The dew which firſt the fleece had fill'd,
When all the earth was dry around,
Was from it afterwards withheld,
And only fell upon the ground.

3 Thus God the precious goſpel grants,
Which falls, like dew, at his command,
To keep alive his choſen plants,
While in this dry and thirſty land.

4 But ah! what numbers ſtill are dead,
Tho' under means of grace they lie!
The dew ſtill falling round their head,
And yet their heart untouch'd and dry.

5 Dear Saviour, hear us when we call,
To wreſtling pray'r an anſwer give;
Diſtil thy dew upon us all,
That all may feel, and all may live.

XVI.

The Death of Samſon.

1 WHAT tho' the Philiſtines exult,
And raiſe their voices high,
Whilſt Iſrael's champion they inſult,
And Iſrael's God defy;

2 Captive

2 Captive and bound tho' Samson be,
His arm shall vict'ry gain;
And strike their nobles dead, tho' he
Be mingled with the slain.

3 Thus, when he bow'd his head and dy'd,
He gave the fatal blow,
Which crush'd at once their pow'r and pride,
And laid their empire low.

4 So Jesus conquer'd at his death,
He triumph'd when he fell;
And, with his last expiring breath,
Destroy'd the pow'rs of hell.

5 O may his name for ever live,
And dwell upon our tongues;
Whilst we to Him the glory give,
In never-ceasing songs.

XVII. (Watts.)

The Child Samuel presented to the Lord; or, the Advantages of early Religion.

1 WHAT bless'd examples do we find,
Writ in the Word of Truth,
Of children that began to mind
Religion in their youth.

2 Samuel the Child was wean'd and brought
To wait upon the Lord;
Young Timothy betimes was taught
To know his holy word.

3 When we devote our youth to God,
'Tis pleasing in his eyes;

A flow'r, when offer'd in the bud,
Is no vain sacrifice.

4 'Twill save us from a thousand snares,
To mind religion young;
Grace will preserve our following years,
And make our virtue strong.

5 To thee, Almighty God, to thee,
Our childhood we resign;
'Twill please us to look back and see
That our whole lives are thine.

XVIII. (Newton.)

The Milch Kine drawing the Ark.

1 THE kine unguided went
By the directest road;
When the Philistines homeward sent
The ark of Israel's God.

2 Lowing they pass'd along,
And left their calves shut up;
They felt an instinct for their young,
But would not turn or stop.

3 Shall brutes, devoid of thought,
Their Maker's will obey;
And we, who by his grace are taught,
More stubborn prove than they?

4 He shed his precious blood
To make us his alone;
If wash'd in that atoning flood,
We are no more our own.

5 If

5 If He his will reveal,
Let us obey his call;
And think, whate'er the flesh may feel,
His love deserves our all.

XIX. *

David and Goliah.

1 By whom was David taught
To aim the dreadful blow,
When he the great Goliah fought,
And laid the giant low?

2 No sword nor spear he took,
No warlike weapon try'd;
But chose a pebble from the brook,
The contest to decide.

3 'Twas Israel's God and King
Who sent him to the fight;
Who gave him strength the stone to sling,
And skill to guide its flight.

4 With speed it urg'd its course,
The monster felt the wound,
And, struck with its resistless force,
Fell prostrate on the ground.

5 Our God is still the same,
His pow'r no limit knows;
And we, confiding in his name,
Shall vanquish all our foes.

* See Olney Hymns, Book I. Hymn 17.

XX.

David persecuted by Saul; or, Affliction the Lot of God's People.

1 DAVID, altho' ordain'd of God
To fill the Jewish throne,
Must bear affliction's heavy load
Before he wears the crown.

2 Now, by the rage of wicked Saul,
From place to place he's driv'n;
For trials must and will befal
The favourites of heav'n.

3 Thus Jesus spent a life of pain
And suff'ring here below;
And those who hope with him to reign
Must suffer with him too.

4 Dear Lord, thy presence we implore,
In ev'ry new distress;
O grant us thy supporting pow'r,
And sanctifying grace.

5. And when this mortal life shall cease,
And nature's frame decay,
May we that glorious crown possess,
Which cannot fade away.

XXI.

David anointed King.

1 LET Israel now, with one accord,
A song of triumph raise;
David, th' anointed of the Lord,
The Jewish sceptre sways.

2 By

2 By wiſe and righteous laws alone
Doth he maintain his court;
Truth is the baſis of his throne,
And juſtice its ſupport.

3 Let envy point her poiſon'd dart,
And furious rage aſſail;
Againſt the man of God's own heart
They never can prevail.

4 Thus may we ſing—for Chriſt our Lord
Hath fix'd his throne ſecure;
Firm as his own unſhaken word
His kingdom ſhall endure.

5 With heart and voice well tun'd may we
To Him our praiſes bring;
Our Judge and Lawgiver is He,
Our Saviour and our King.

XXII. (Newton.)

David's Sin and Repentance.

1 HOW David, when by ſin deceiv'd,
From bad to worſe went on!
For when the Holy Spirit's griev'd,
Our ſtrength and guard are gone.

2 When ſin deceives it hardens too,
For tho' he vainly ſought
To hide his crimes from public view,
Of God he little thought.

3 He neither would nor could repent,
No true compunction felt;

Till God in mercy Nathan ſent,
His ſtubborn heart to melt.

4 "Thou art the man," the Prophet ſaid;
That word his ſlumber broke;
And when he own'd his ſin and pray'd,
The Lord forgiveneſs ſpoke.

5 Let thoſe who think they ſtand beware,
For David ſtood before;
Nor let the fallen ſoul deſpair,
For mercy can reſtore.

XXIII.

The Death of David.

1 HOW gracious is the Lord to thoſe
Who on his word rely!
Thro' life his preſence with them goes,
Nor leaves them when they die.

2 This precious truth in ev'ry page
Of David's hiſt'ry ſhines;
From early youth to hoary age,
'Tis writ in faireſt lines.

3 In many a thorny path he trod,
Till, all his trials paſt,
Confiding in his cov'nant God,
He ſweetly breath'd his laſt.

4 To this may we our hearts apply,
Inſtruction to derive;
Like David may we learn to die,
Like David learn to live.

XXIV.

XXIV.

Solomon's Choice of Wisdom approved by God.

1 THUS spake the Lord to Solomon,
" Ask what thou wilt, it shall be done:"
Sure of obtaining his request,
Thus Solomon his pray'r address'd:

2 " Lord, I beseech thee to impart
" A wise and understanding heart;
" That I may rule and govern well
" Thy chosen people Israel."

3 The Lord reply'd, " Since thou hast chose
" Nor length of days, nor death of foes;
" Nor yet in riches to abound,
" Or be with fame and honour crown'd;

4 " I grant thy heart's supreme desire,
" My wisdom shall thy soul inspire;
" And, to reward thy choice, I give
" In wealth and honour long to live."

5 Taught by this story, may we learn
Our real int'rest to discern;
And seek that wisdom to possess,
Which leads to endless happiness.

XXV.

The Victory obtained by Asa over Zerah the Ethiopian.

1 THE history of Asa shews
The Lord is ever nigh,
To save, defend, and prosper those,
Who on his aid rely.

2 When

2 When a huge hoſt againſt him came,
To God by pray'r he ſought;
And, truſting in Jehovah's name,
With eaſe the vict'ry got.

3 May we, in each diſtreſſing hour,
In God alone confide;
And we ſhall find Almighty pow'r
Engaged on our ſide.

4 For God is ſtill in ev'ry place,
In ev'ry age the ſame;
And thoſe who humbly ſeek his face,
Shall ne'er be put to ſhame.

XXVI. (Newton.)

The Meal and Cruſe of Oil.

1 By the poor widow's oil and meal
Elijah was ſuſtained;
Tho' ſmall the ſtock it laſted well,
For God the ſtore maintain'd.

2 It ſeem'd as if from day to day
They were to eat and die;
But ſtill, tho' in a ſecret way,
He ſent a freſh ſupply.

3 Thus to his poor he ſtill will give
Juſt for the preſent hour;
But for to-morrow they muſt live
Upon his word and pow'r.

4 No barn or ſtorehouſe they poſſeſs
On which they can depend;

Yet

Yet have no cauſe to fear diſtreſs,
For Jeſus is their friend.

5 Then let not doubts your mind aſſail,
Remember, God has ſaid,
The cruſe and barrel ſhall not fail,
My people ſhall be fed.

XXVII.

The Death of Ahab.

1 WHERE ſhall preſumptuous ſinners hide
From an all-ſeeing God?
Or, how ſhall guilty ſouls abide
The vengeance of his rod?

2 In vain did wicked Ahab ſtrive
To ſhun his piercing eyes;
In vain with care did he contrive
His perſon to diſguiſe.

3 For, lo! with heav'n-directed aim,
Shot from a Syrian bow,
The fatal arrow ſwiftly came,
And pierc'd his armour thro'.

4 Keen anguiſh tore the throbbing wound,
Which ſoon his life muſt end;
Too late, alas! with God he found
'Twas folly to contend.

5 O may our ſpirits, fill'd with awe,
By this admoniſh'd be;
Nor dare tranſgreſs his righteous law,
From whom we cannot flee.

XXVIII. (Watts.)

Forty-two Children destroyed by Bears for mocking Elisha.

1 WHOEVER dare, with lips profane,
To mock and jeer and scoff,
At holy things, or holy men,
The Lord shall cut them off.

2 When children in their wanton play,
Serv'd old Elisha so,
And bid the prophet go his way,
"Go up, thou bald head, go:"

3 God quickly stopp'd their wicked breath,
And sent two raging bears,
That tore them limb from limb to death,
With blood and groans and tears.

4 Great God, how terrible art thou
To sinners e'er so young!
Grant me thy grace, and teach me how
To tame and rule my tongue.

XXIX. (Newton.)

The Prophet's Servant enlightened; or, the People of God protected by an invisible Guard.

1 ALAS! Elisha's servant cry'd,
When he the Syrian army spy'd;
But he was soon releas'd from care,
In answer to the prophet's pray'r.

2 Straitway he saw, with other eyes,
A greater army from the skies,
A fiery guard around the hill;
Thus are the saints protected still.

3 When

3 When Satan and his hoſt appear,
If to my ſoul the Lord is near,
I too, by faith, with joy may ſee
A greater hoſt engag'd for me.

4 The ſaints eſpouſe my cauſe by pray'r,
The angels make my ſoul their care;
Mine is the promiſe ſeal'd with blood,
And Jeſus lives to make it good.

XXX.

Jehu's falſe Zeal; or, Hypocriſy detected.

1 "COME ſee my pious zeal!"
While boaſting Jehu cries;
He ſeeks his motives to conceal,
Beneath this fair diſguiſe.

2 Tho' Baal he deſtroy'd,
He ſerv'd the Lord by halves;
And his ſupreme command made void,
By worſhipping the calves.

3 O may we never dare
To act ſo baſe a part;
But know, whatever we appear,
God ſees the inmoſt heart.

4 Dear Lord, our ſouls renew,
From all our droſs refine;
Our reigning ſins do thou ſubdue,
And make us wholly thine.

XXXI.

The Apostasy of Joash.

1 WHILST good Jehoiada survi'd,
Beneath his wise restraint,
In peace and honour Joash liv'd,
And seem'd almost a saint.

2 But now, his pious uncle dead,
He, with undaunted feet,
Presumes the sinner's path to tread,
And take the scorner's seat.

3 Against reproof he stops his ear,
And, madly rushing on,
He dares, without remorse or fear,
To slay his uncle's son.

4 What dreadful lengths may sinners go,
How soon from God depart;
If, while professing Him to know,
They love him not at heart.

5 Lord, search and try our inmost thoughts,
And make our souls sincere;
O cleanse our hearts from secret faults,
And form thine image there.

XXXII. (Watts.)

The Assyrian Army destroyed by an Angel from Heaven.

1 'TWAS Zion's king that stopp'd the breath
Of captains and their bands;
The men of might slept fast in death,
And never found their hands.

2 From

2 From Zion went his dreadful word,
And broke the threat'ning ſpear,
The bow, the arrows, and the ſword,
And cruſh'd th' Aſſyrian war.

3 Vow to the Lord, and tribute bring,
Ye princes fear his frown;
His terrors ſhake the proudeſt king,
And cut an army down.

4 His ſtubborn foes his ſword ſhall ſlay,
And pierce their hearts with pain;
But none that ſerve the Lord ſhall ſay,
They ſought his aid in vain.

5 Our lips ſhall dwell upon his praiſe,
And ſpread his fame abroad;
Let all the ſons of Adam raiſe
The honours of their God.

XXXIII.

The Character of Joſiah.

1 JOSIAH, young in years,
In earneſt ſeeks the Lord;
With holy awe his threat'nings hears,
And trembles at his word.

2 He ſtrives by fervent pray'r
T' avert th' impending ſtorm;
And labours, with a pious care,
His people to reform.

3 Whilſt, like a raging flood,
Iniquities abound;

Still to the cov'nant of his God,
His heart is ſtedfaſt found.

4 O may we learn of him,
When vice and folly ſpread,
To ſhun the errors of the time,
And walk with holy dread.

5 Let troubles then increaſe,
And num'rous ills prevail;
The Lord ſhall keep our ſouls in peace,
His promiſe cannot fail.

XXXIV.

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream interpreted by Daniel.

1 'TIS at his Will, who governs all,
That mighty empires riſe and fall:
This truth was once, by God, made known
To a proud monarch on his throne.

2 A vaſt tremendous image, rear'd
In viſion, to the king appear'd;
Of ſtrange materials, yet each part
Adjuſted with the niceſt art.

3 "Such is thy dream," the prophet ſaid,
"Its meaning this—the golden head,
"Denotes thyſelf; the parts below
"Vaſt empires in ſucceſſion ſhow.

4 "Theſe various revolutions paſt,
"A kingdom God ſhall raiſe at laſt,
"Whoſe pow'r and greatneſs ſhall extend
"Beyond them all, and never end."

5 This

5 This kingdom is the church of God,
'Tis founded on a Saviour's blood;
And, tho' in its beginnings ſmall,
Shall ſhortly triumph over all.

XXXV.

The Triumph of Faith; or, Shadrach, Meſhach, and Abednego, preſerved in the Fiery Furnace.

1 WHAT mighty wonders Faith has done!
O, who can e'er recount
The num'rous vict'ries it has won,
Or tell the vaſt amount?

2 Poſſeſs'd of this, without diſmay,
The Hebrew Champions ſtood,
And dar'd a tyrant diſobey,
Reſiſting unto blood.

3 His impious threat they diſregard,
And all his fury brave,
Believing that the God they fear'd,
Was able them to ſave.

4 Leaning on his almighty arm,
Who did ſuch faith inſpire,
They were preſerv'd ſecure from harm,
Amidſt conſuming fire.

5 Like precious faith may we poſſeſs,
Nor need we ever fear,
Tho' call'd thro' floods or flames to paſs,
If God be with us there.

XXXVI. (Newton.)

The Hand-writing on the Wall.

1 BELSHAZZAR, grown profanely bold,
The Lord of Hosts defy'd;
But vengeance soon his boasts controul'd
And humbled all his pride.

2 He saw a hand against the wall,
And trembled on his throne;
It wrote his sudden dreadful fall,
In characters unknown.

3 Why should he tremble at the view
Of what he could not read?
Foreboding conscience quickly knew
His ruin was decreed.

4 See him o'erwhelm'd with deep distress!
His eyes with anguish roll;
His looks, and loosen'd joints, express
The terrors of his soul.

5 The law, like this hand-writing, stands,
And speaks the wrath of God;
But Jesus answers its demands,
And cancels it with blood.

XXXVII.

The Proclamation of Cyrus; or, the Jews restored to their own Land.

1 NOW let our grateful songs record
The loving-kindness of the Lord;
How firm his truth, how large his grace,
To Abra'm's seed, to Jacob's race!

2 When,

2 When, under his chastising hand,
Far distant from their native land,
With heart-felt grief their sins they mourn,
He bids the chosen tribes return.

3 Th' appointed hour arriv'd, behold!
Cyrus appears, by name foretold;
And lo! without reward or fee,
At once he sets the captives free!

4 What must they feel at news like this!
But tidings of superior bliss
The precious gospel doth proclaim,
In our exalted Saviour's name.

5 May we those blissful tidings know,
And taste the blessings they bestow;
Then, fill'd with gratitude and joy,
His praises shall our tongues employ.

XXXVIII. (Watts.)

Prophecy and Inspiration.

1 'TWAS by an order from the Lord,
The ancient prophets spoke his word;
His Spirit did their tongues inspire,
And warm'd their hearts with heav'nly fire.

2 The works and wonders which they wrought,
Confirm'd the messages they brought;
The prophet's pen succeeds his breath,
To save the holy words from death.

3 Great God! mine eyes with pleasure look
On the dear volume of thy book;

There my Redeemer's face I ſee,
And read his name who dy'd for me.

4 Let the falſe raptures of the mind
Be loſt, and vaniſh in the wind;
Here I can fix my hope ſecure;
This is thy word, and muſt endure.

XXXIX. (Watts.)

Inſtruction from Scripture.

1 How ſhall the young ſecure their hearts,
And guard their lives from ſin?
Thy word the choiceſt rules imparts,
To keep the conſcience clean.

2 When once it enters to the mind,
It ſpreads ſuch light abroad,
The meaneſt ſouls inſtruction find,
And raiſe their thoughts to God.

3 'Tis like the ſun, a heav'nly light,
That guides us all the day;
And, thro' the dangers of the night,
A lamp to lead our way.

4 Thy word is everlaſting truth;
How pure is ev'ry page!
That holy book ſhall guide our youth,
And well ſupport our age.

HYMNS,

&c. &c.

BOOK THE SECOND.

On the History of the New Testament.

I. (Watts.)

The Birth of Christ.

1 BEHOLD, the grace appears,
The promise is fulfill'd;
Mary the wond'rous virgin bears,
And Jesus is the child.

2 To bring the glorious news
A heav'nly form appears;
He tells the shepherds of their joys,
And banishes their fears.

3 "Go, humble swains, (said he)
"To David's city fly;
"The promis'd infant, born to-day,
"Doth in a manger lie.

4 "With looks and hearts serene,
"Go, visit Christ your king;"
And straight a flaming troop was seen,
The shepherds heard them sing;

5 "Glory

5 "Glory to God on high!
"And heav'nly peace on earth;
"Good-will to men, to angels joy,
"At the Redeemer's birth!"

II.

The Wise Men presenting their Offerings.

1 DIRECTED by an unknown star,
The Eastern sages from afar,
Their presents to IMMANUEL bring,
And gladly own the new-born king.

2 Tho' in a humble garb array'd,
And in a lowly manger laid,
The infant Saviour there they greet,
And pay their homage at his feet.

3 Behold him now, exalted high,
Above the earth, beyond the sky!
Yet we to him our voice may raise,
And bring the tribute of our praise.

4 Dear Lord, accept our humble songs,
The thankful off'rings of our tongues;
To thee, for mercies ever new,
Would we ascribe the glory due.

III. (WATTS.)

The Ministry of John the Baptist.

1 NOW be the God of Israel bless'd,
Who makes his truth appear!
His mighty hand fulfils his word,
And all the oaths he sware.

2 John

2 John was the prophet of the Lord,
To go before his face;
The herald which our Saviour God
Sent to prepare his ways.

3 "Behold the Lamb of God, (he cries)
"That takes our guilt away!
"I saw the Spirit o'er his head
"On his baptismal day."

4 Behold the morning-star arise,
Ye that in darkness sit!
He marks the path that leads to peace,
And guides our doubtful feet.

IV.

The Miracles of Christ.

1 WHAT heav'nly glories in the face
Of our Redeemer shine!
His wondrous works of pow'r and grace
Proclaim him all-divine.

2 Diseases fly at his approach,
The sick a cure receive;
His sov'reign word, his healing touch,
New life and vigour give.

3 Sight to the blind doth he restore,
And soundness to the lame;
The tongue that never spoke before
Now spreads abroad his fame.

4 Death and the grave resign their prey,
When he appoints the hour;
The winds and waves his voice obey,
And devils own his pow'r.

5 To Him, with gratitude and joy,
Let us our voices raiſe;
And all our active pow'rs employ
In ſhewing forth his praiſe.

V. (Watts.)

The Example of Chriſt.

1 MY dear Redeemer, and my Lord!
I read my duty in thy word;
But in thy life the law appears
Drawn out in living characters.

2 Such was thy truth, and ſuch thy zeal,
Such def'rence to thy Father's will,
Such love, and meekneſs ſo divine,
I would tranſcribe, and make them mine.

3 Cold mountains, and the midnight air,
Witneſs'd the fervour of thy pray'r;
The deſert thy temptations knew,
Thy conflict and thy vict'ry too.

4 Be thou my pattern, make me bear
More of thy gracious image here;
Then God the Judge will own my name
Amongſt the followers of the Lamb.

VI. (Doddridge.)

The recovered Demoniac, an Emblem of a converted Sinner.

1 JESUS, we own thy ſaving pow'r,
And thy victorious hand;
Hell's legions tremble at thy feet,
And fly at thy command.

2 O'er

2 O'er ſouls, by paſſion's uproar fill'd
With anarchy unknown,
The nobler pow'rs, reſtor'd by thee,
Aſcend their peaceful throne.

3 No more they rend their clothing off,
No more their wounds repeat;
But gentle and compos'd they wait,
Attentive at thy feet.

4 O'er thouſands more, where Satan rules,
May we ſuch triumphs ſee;
And be their reſcu'd ſouls and ours
Devoted, Lord, to thee.

VII. (Doddridge.)

The Faith of the Syrophœnician Woman recommended.

1 ALL-conqu'ring faith, how high it roſe,
When heav'n itſelf might ſeem t'oppoſe!
Then, gracious Lord, didſt thou appear
Moſt merciful, when moſt ſevere!

2 Thus at thy feet our ſouls would fall,
And loudly thus for mercy call;
Thou Son of David, pity ſhew,
And ſave us from th' infernal foe.

3 Tho' viler than the brutes we be,
Our longing eyes would wait on thee,
Who doſt to dogs this grace afford,
To taſte the crumbs beneath thy board.

4 But thou the humble ſoul wilt raiſe,
And all its ſorrows turn to praiſe;
Each ſelf-abaſing broken heart
Shall with thy children ſhare a part.

VIII. (Newton.)

Martha and Mary; or, the one thing needful.

1 MARTHA her love and joy expreſs'd
By care to entertain her gueſt;
Whilſt Mary ſat to hear her Lord,
And could not bear to loſe a word.

2 The one to feaſt the Lord was led,
The other waited to be fed;
But Mary choſe the better part,
Her Saviour's words refreſh'd her heart.

3 How oft are we like Martha vex'd,
Encumber'd, hurry'd and perplex'd;
While trifles ſo engroſs our thought
The one thing needful is forgot.

4 Lord, teach us this one thing to chooſe,
Which they who gain can never loſe;
Sufficient in itſelf alone,
And needful were the world our own.

IX. (Doddridge.)

Chriſt's condeſcending Regard to little Children.

1 SEE Iſrael's gentle Shepherd ſtand,
With all-engaging charms;
Hark how he calls the tender lambs,
And folds them in his arms!

2 Permit them to approach, (he cries)
Nor ſcorn their humble name;
For 'twas to bleſs ſuch ſouls as theſe
The Lord of angels came.

3 We bring them, Lord, by fervent pray'r,
And yield them up to thee;
Joyful that we ourselves are thine,
Thine let our offspring be.

4 Ye little flock, with pleasure hear,
Ye children, seek his face;
And fly with transport to receive
The blessings of his grace.

X. (Watts.)

Hosanna to the Son of David; or, Salvation ascribed to Christ.

1 HOSANNA to the Prince of Grace:
Zion, behold thy King;
Proclaim the Son of David's race,
And teach the babes to sing.

2 Hosanna to th' Incarnate Word,
Who from the Father came;
Ascribe salvation to the Lord,
With blessings on his name.

3 Bless'd be the Lord, who comes to men
With messages of grace;
Who comes in God his Father's name,
To save our sinful race.

4 Hosanna in the highest strains
The church on earth can raise;
The highest heav'ns in which he reigns,
Shall give him nobler praise.

XI. (Watts.)

The Lord's Supper instituted.

1 'TWAS on that dark, that doleful night,
When pow'rs of earth and hell arose
Against the Son of God's delight,
And friends betray'd him to his foes.

2 Before the mournful scene began,
He took the bread, and bless'd, and brake:
What love thro' all his actions ran!
What wondrous words of grace he spake!

3 "This is my body, broke for sin;
"Receive and eat the living food:"
Then took the cup, and bless'd the wine;
"'Tis the new cov'nant in my blood.

4 "Do this, (he cry'd) till time shall end,
"In mem'ry of your dying friend;
"Meet at my table, and record
"The love of your departed Lord."

5 Thus the Redeemer makes us know
The wonders of his dying love;
And thus his praises we would show,
Till call'd to dwell with him above.

XII. (Watts.)

Jesus deliver'd up by the Jews to the Roman Governor.

1 WHY did the Jews proclaim their rage?
The Romans why their swords employ?
Against the Lord their pow'rs engage,
His dear Anointed to destroy.

2 "Come.

2 "Come, let us break his bands, (they ſay)
"This man ſhall never give us laws;"
And thus they caſt his yoke away,
And nail their Monarch to the croſs.

3 But God, who high in glory reigns,
Laughs at their pride, their rage controuls;
He'll vex their hearts with inward pains,
And ſpeak in thunder to their ſouls.

4 The nations that reſiſt his grace
Shall fall beneath his iron ſtroke;
His rod ſhall cruſh his foes with eaſe,
As potter's earthen work is broke.

XIII. (Watts.)

The Sufferings and Death of Chriſt.

1 NOW let our mournful ſongs record
The dying ſorrows of our Lord,
When he complain'd in tears and blood,
As one forſaken of his God.

2 The Jews beheld him thus forlorn,
And ſhook their heads, and laugh'd in ſcorn;
"He reſcu'd others from the grave,
"Now let him try himſelf to ſave."

3 They wound his head, his hands, his feet,
Till ſtreams of blood each other meet;
By lot his garments they divide,
And mock the pangs in which he dy'd.

4 But God, his Father, heard his cry;
Rais'd from the dead he reigns on high;
The nations learn his righteouſneſs,
And humble ſinners taſte his grace.

XIV. (Watts.)

The Resurrection of Christ.

1 BLESS'D morning, whose young dawning rays
Beheld our rising God;
That saw him triumph o'er the dust,
And leave his last abode!

2 In the cold prison of a tomb
The dead Redeemer lay,
Till the revolving skies had brought
The third, th' appointed day.

3 Hell and the grave unite their force
To hold our God in vain;
The sleeping Conqueror arose,
And burst their feeble chain.

4 Salvation and immortal praise
To our victorious king;
Let heav'n, and earth, and rocks, and seas,
With glad Hosannas ring.

XV. (Watts.)

The Ascension of Christ.

1 O FOR a shout of sacred joy
To God the Sov'reign King!
Let ev'ry land their tongues employ,
And hymns of triumph sing.

2 Jesus our God ascends on high;
His heav'nly guards, around,
Attend him rising thro' the sky,
With trumpet's joyful sound.

3 See how the Conqu'ror mounts aloft,
And to his Father flies,
With ſcars of honour in his fleſh,
And triumph in his eyes!

4 While angels ſhout and praiſe their King,
Let mortals learn the ſtrains;
Let all the earth his honours ſing;
O'er all the earth he reigns.

XVI. (Watts.)

The Effuſion of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecoſt.

1 GREAT was the day, the joy was great,
When the divine diſciples met;
Whilſt on their heads the Spirit came,
And ſat like tongues of cloven flame.

2 What gifts, what miracles he gave!
And pow'r to kill, and pow'r to ſave!
Furniſh'd their tongues with wondrous words,
Inſtead of ſhields, and ſpears, and ſwords.

3 Thus arm'd, he ſent the champions forth,
From eaſt to weſt, from ſouth to north:
"Go, and aſſert your Saviour's cauſe;
"Go, ſpread the myſt'ry of his croſs."

4 Theſe weapons of the holy war,
Of what almighty force they are!
Nations, the learned and the rude,
Are by theſe heav'nly arms ſubdu'd.

5 Great King of Grace! my heart ſubdue;
I would be led in triumph too,
A willing captive to my Lord,
And ſing the vict'ries of his word.

XVII. (Newton.)

The Death of Stephen.

1 As some tall rock, amidst the waves,
The fury of the tempest braves;
While the fierce billows, tossing high,
Break at its foot and murm'ring die.

2 So faithful Stephen, undismay'd,
The malice of the Jews survey'd;
The holy joy which fill'd his breast
A lustre on his face impress'd.

3 "Behold! (he said) the world of light
"Is open'd to my strengthen'd sight;
"My glorious Lord appears in view,
"That Jesus, whom ye lately slew."

4 With such a friend and witness near,
No form of death could make him fear;
Calm, amidst show'rs of stones, he kneels,
And only for his murd'rers feels.

5 May we, by faith, perceive thee thus,
Dear Saviour, ever near to us!
This sight our peace thro' life shall keep,
And death be fear'd no more than sleep.

XVIII.

The Conversion of Saul, from a furious Persecutor to an eminent Apostle.

1 See Saul, with persecuting rage,
Pursue the saints of God;
Without regard to sex or age,
Still thirsting for their blood!

2 When

2 When lo! the Lord reveals his name,
And, ſuch his wondrous love!
Transforms the lion to a lamb,
The vulture to a dove.

3 His heart thro' grace is reconcil'd,
And yields ſubjection ſweet;
The rebel is become a child,
At the Redeemer's feet.

4 The faith he labour'd to deſtroy
Is now his darling theme;
And pray'r and praiſe thoſe lips employ
That lately durſt blaſpheme.

5 Dear Lord, in us thy pow'r exert,
Our ſtubborn wills ſubdue;
Erect thy throne in ev'ry heart,
Form ev'ry ſoul anew.

XIX. (Rippon's Selection.)

Peter releaſed from Priſon; or, the Miniſtry of Angels.

1 GREAT God, what hoſts of Angels ſtand
In ſhining ranks at thy right hand,
Array'd in robes of dazzling light,
With pinions ſtretch'd for diſtant flight!

2 In ſtrength and beauty they excel,
For near the throne of God they dwell;
And there devoutly wait to know
The duties he would have them do.

3 Hither, at his command, they fly,
To guard the beds on which we lie;
To ſhield our perſons night and day,
And ſcatter all our fears away.

4 Herod

4 Herod attempts, but all in vain,
To bind a Peter with his chain;
At one soft word an Angel speaks,
The massy chain asunder breaks.

5 Send, O my God, some Angel down,
Tho' to a mortal eye unknown,
To guard and guide my doubtful way
Up to the realms of endless day.

XX.

The Conversion of the Jailor at Philippi.

1 IN prison, for the Saviour's name,
See Paul and Silas flung!
For Him well pleas'd to suffer shame,
His praise employ'd their tongue.

2 When suddenly the prison shook,
Wide open flew the doors!
With conscious guilt the jailor struck,
Th' Apostles' help implores.

3 "What shall I do?" he trembling cry'd,
"Ah! whither shall I flee?"
"Believe on Jesus," they reply'd,
"And thou shalt saved be."

4 With gladness he receiv'd the word,
Believ'd, and was baptiz'd;
A willing subject of that Lord,
Whom he before despis'd.

5 O may we know the joyful sound,
On Jesus Christ believe,
In fruits of righteousness abound,
And God the praise receive.

XXI.

XXI. (Rippon's Selection.)

The Progress of the Gospel and the Increase of the Church.

1 SHOUT, for the blessed Jesus reigns,
Thro' distant lands his triumphs spread;
And sinners, freed from endless pains,
Own him their Saviour and their head.

2 His sons and daughters, from afar,
Daily at Zion's gate arrive;
Those who were dead in sin before
By sov'reign grace are made alive.

3 Gentiles and Jews his laws obey,
Nations remote their off'rings bring,
And, unconstrain'd, their homage pay
To their exalted God and King.

4 O may his conquests still increase,
And ev'ry foe his pow'r subdue;
While angels celebrate his praise,
And saints his growing glories shew.

5 Loud Hallelujahs to the Lamb,
From all below, and all above;
In lofty songs exalt his name,
In songs as lasting as his love.

XXII. (Rippon's Selection.)

Paul preaching and Felix trembling.

1 SEE Felix, cloth'd with pomp and pow'r,
See his resplendent bride,
Attend to hear a pris'ner preach
The Saviour crucify'd!

2 He

2 He well describes who Jesus was,
His glories and his love;
How he obey'd and bled below,
And reigns and pleads above:

3 And how, in awful majesty,
He shall at length appear,
Vengeance to execute on all
Who dare reject him here.

4 Felix starts up, and trembling cries,
"Go for this time away;
"I'll hear thee on these points again
"On some convenient day."

5 Attention to the words of life
Tho' Felix thus adjourn,
Lord, let us make these solemn truths
Our first and last concern.

XXIII. (Newton.)

Paul's Voyage to Rome.

1 If Paul in Cæsar's court must stand,
He need not fear the sea;
Secur'd from harm on ev'ry hand,
By the divine decree.

2 Altho' the ship, in which he sail'd,
By dreadful storms was toss'd;
The promise over all prevail'd,
And not a life was lost.

3 Tho' neither sun nor stars were seen,
Paul knew the Lord was near;
And faith preserv'd his soul serene,
When others shook for fear.

4 Believers

4 Believers thus are toſs'd about,
On life's tempeſtuous main;
But grace aſſures, beyond a doubt,
They ſhall their port attain.

5 Lord, tho' we are but feeble worms,
Yet ſince thy word is paſt,
We'll venture thro' a thouſand ſtorms,
To ſee thy face at laſt.

XXIV. (Watts.)

The Example of Chriſt and his Saints.

1 GIVE me the wings of faith to riſe
Within the veil, and ſee
The ſaints above, how great their joys,
How bright their glories be!

2 Once they were mourning here below,
And wet their couch with tears;
They wreſtled hard, as we do now,
With ſins, and doubts, and fears.

3 I aſk them whence their vict'ry came?
They, with united breath,
Aſcribe their conqueſt to the Lamb,
Their triumph to his death.

4 They mark'd the footſteps that he trod,
(His zeal inſpir'd their breaſt,)
And, following their incarnate God,
Poſſeſs the promis'd reſt.

5 Our glorious leader claims our praiſe,
For his own pattern giv'n,
While the long cloud of witneſſes
Shew the ſame path to heav'n.

XXV. (Watts.)

The Martyrs glorified.

1 "THESE glorious minds, how bright they ſhine!
" Whence all their white array?
" How came they to the happy ſeats
" Of everlaſting day?"

2 From tort'ring pains to endleſs joys,
On fiery wheels they rode;
And ſtrangely waſh'd their raiment white,
In Jeſu's dying blood.

3 Now they approach a ſpotleſs God,
And bow before his throne;
Their warbling harps and ſacred ſongs
Adore the Holy One.

4 The unveil'd glories of his face
Amongſt his ſaints reſide;
While the rich treaſure of his grace
Sees all their wants ſupply'd.

5 The Lamb ſhall lead his heav'nly flock
Where living fountains riſe;
And love divine ſhall wipe away
The ſorrows of their eyes.

THE END.

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